



4098-6:JMD:#468461

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:)
Stephen E. RONSHEIM) Before the Examiner
Serial No. 10/728,026) Victor L. MacArthur
Filed December 4, 2003) Group Art Unit 3679
SPHERICAL LOCKING DEVICE) June 15, 2007

RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated June 5, 2007,
please enter the following amendments to the drawings and remarks in the above-
identified patent application.

An entire corrected amendment is being submitted with the request for a two
month extension of time. Please provide any additional extensions of time which are
required and charge any additional fees which may be due or credit any overpayments to

Deposit Account No.

23-3030.

Amendment Response
Serial No. 10/728,026 Group Art Unit 3679
Atty. Docket No. 4098-6
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being
mailed via First Class Mail to the United States
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on
June 15, 2007

(Date of Deposit)

James M. Durlacher

Name of Registered Representative

James M. Durlacher
Signature

June 15, 2007

Date of Signature

REMARKS

In response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated June 5, 2007, three issues have been raised regarding the replacement set of formal drawings filed on March 1, 2007.

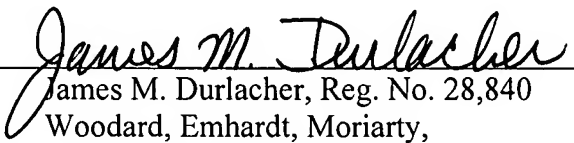
(1) The statement that the drawings were not properly identified is not correct. Perhaps something got chopped off with your processing, but our drawings very clearly have all of the required information in the top margin, including the phrase "Replacement Sheet". In all likelihood the submitted A4 drawing sheets were copied by the Patent and Trademark Office onto 8 ½ x 11 paper thereby chopping off the top margin that includes the required information. Since a similar Patent and Trademark Office error seemed to have occurred previously, that was one reason for Applicant suggesting that the Examiner might want to look at the actual documents as arriving rather than a scanned or photocopied set. Notwithstanding, another complete set of drawings is being submitted. In order to avoid a repeat of the prior problem the drawings are now on 8 ½ x 11 paper.

(2) The statement that the changes made to the drawings have not been explained is considered to be improper based on the entirety of the prosecution. The Examiner raised the issue regarding the cross hatching of items 14, 57, 59, 72 and 81 in the prior Office Action and thus the items to be corrected by Applicant were not only specifically identified but were clearly understood and within the knowledge of the Examiner. In response Applicant indicated that the cross hatching had been enhanced for "the five (5) elastomeric members mentioned". It seemed adequate to make reference to "the five" elastomeric members based on the Examiner's prior itemization of those by

way of reference nos. 14, 57, 59, 72 and 81. Once the Examiner identifies those five specific items as needing to be fixed and in response the Applicant says that these five items were fixed, one has to question what more identification is believed to be needed or necessary.

(3) The issue regarding cross hatching for plastic versus rubber is proper. Accordingly, replacement sheets are being submitted for the entire set of drawings. Elements 14, 57, 59, 72 and 81 are having their cross hatching changed from plastic in order to depict rubber due to their elastomeric composition. These changes affect drawing figures 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13 and 14.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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